

Message Text

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14

ORIGIN NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSCE-00 NSC-10 AID-10 INR-10

AGR-03 L-02 H-01 EB-03 RSC-01 /061 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:JHHOLMES/MW

APPROVED BY NEA - MR. LAINGEN

NEA/PAB:PDCONSTABLE

S/S MR. GAMMON

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R 152327Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 204419

LIMDIS

E.O.11652:GDS

TAGS: ID, PK

SUBJECT: LETTER TO AZIZ AHMED FROM THE SECRETARY

FOR CHARGE

1. AT YOUR EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY PLEASE PASS TO MINISTER
OF STATE AZIZ AHMED THE FOLLOWING LETTER DATED OCTOBER 14
FROM THE SECRETARY:

QUOTE DEAR MR. MINISTER:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF OCTOBER 8. I REGRET THAT IT
WAS NOT POSSIBLE FOR US TO MEET BEFORE YOUR RETURN TO
PAKISTAN. I KNOW YOU APPRECIATE THE UNUSUAL DEMANDS THAT
HAVE BEEN PLACED ON MY SCHEDULE IN RECENT DAYS.

AS YOU KNOW FROM THE TALKS WHICH PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO
HELD WITH PRESIDENT NIXON DURING HIS VISIT LAST MONTH,
WE ARE DEEPLY MINDFUL OF PAKISTAN'S SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS
FOR ASSISTANCE THIS YEAR. WE HAVE SOUGHT TO BE AS HELPFUL
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AS POSSIBLE IN THE CONTEXT OF THESE REQUIREMENTS AND OF THE

UNITED STATES' DEEP FRIENDSHIP FOR PAKISTAN. UNFORTUNATELY, WE ARE ALSO FACED WITH SEVERE CONSTRAINTS IN OUR OWN FOOD SUPPLIES AVAILABLE FOR CONCESSIONAL ASSISTANCE.

DURING THIS FISCAL YEAR WE DO NOT EXPECT TO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL WHEAT BEYOND THE 100,000 TONS WHICH HAVE ALREADY BEEN ALLOCATED FOR PAKISTAN. I AM PLEASED TO INFORM YOU, HOWEVER, THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO SUPPLY UNDER TITLE I, P. L. 480, 40,000 TONS OF GRAIN SORGHUM TO HELP STRETCH YOUR SUPPLY OF FOOD GRAIN. THE PRESENT SUPPLY SITUATION ON VEGETABLE OIL INDICATES THAT WE CAN MOVE QUICKLY TO SIGN A P. L. 480 SALES AGREEMENT FOR 40,000 TONS OF OIL WHICH WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO DELIVER DURING FY 1974. ALTHOUGH THE SUPPLY CONSTRAINTS ON VEGETABLE OIL WILL MEAN THAT WE CANNOT RESPOND FULLY TO YOUR REQUESTS, WE WILL CONTINUE TO REVIEW AVAILABILITIES IN THE MONTHS AHEAD.

AS I AM SURE YOU ARE AWARE, SENATOR HUMPHREY HAS INTRODUCED LEGISLATION WHICH WOULD PROVIDE ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR COUNTRIES INCLUDING PAKISTAN THAT HAVE SUFFERED DISASTERS. WHILE WE CANNOT PREDICT WHAT CONGRESSIONAL ACTION WILL BE, WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT ADDITIONAL FUNDS WILL BECOME AVAILABLE FOR PAKISTAN IN THIS FISCAL YEAR. I SHOULD ALSO NOTE THE PRESIDENT'S ASSURANCE TO PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO OF OUR INTENTION TO BE HELPFUL IN CONSIDERATION, ALONG WITH OTHER CREDITORS, OF PAKISTAN'S DEBT RESCHEDULING, IN ORDER TO ALLEVIATE THE HEAVY DEMANDS ON FOREIGN EXCHANGE FROM DEBT SERVICING.

IT WAS A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU AGAIN DURING YOUR PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT, AND I HOPE WE WILL HAVE ANOTHER OCCASION TO RENEW OUR FRIENDSHIP IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

WARM REGARDS, HENRY A. KISSINGER UNQUOTE

2. FOLLOWING LETTER FROM AZIZ AHMED TO THE SECRETARY DATED OCTOBER 8 IS PROVIDED FYI:
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QUOTE DEAR MR. SECRETARY OF STATE,

FOR SOME DAYS I HAVE BEEN TRYING TO MEET YOU, BUT, CONSIDERING THE EXCEPTIONALLY HEAVY DEMANDS ON YOUR TIME AT THE PRESENT MOMENT, IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT A MEETING CAN BE ARRANGED BEFORE I LEAVE FOR PAKISTAN ON OCTOBER 12.

I HAVE DECIDED, THEREFORE, TO WRITE TO LET YOU KNOW WHAT I WANTED TO SEE YOU ABOUT.

MY PRIME MINISTER IS DISTURBED TO LEARN THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT ARE OF THE VIEW THAT THE UNITED STATES CAN GIVE US NO WHEAT AT ALL - AGAINST HIS REQUEST FOR 500,000 TONS IF WE ARE NOT TO GET INTO SERIOUS TROUBLE IN REGARD TO OUR FOOD SITUATION BY DECEMBER THIS YEAR. WE HAVE BEEN FURTHER TOLD THAT WE COULD EXPECT ONLY A SMALL QUANTITY OF SOYA BEAN OIL OVER THE 40,000 TONS ALREADY AGREED TO. AS YOU KNOW WE REQUIRE A MINIMUM OF 100,000 TONS OF IT.

I SHOULD INVITE YOUR GOVERNMENT TO CONSIDER THE ADVERSE IMPACT SUCH A DECISION WOULD HAVE ON PUBLIC OPINION IN PAKISTAN, QUITE APART FROM THE SERIOUS PREDICAMENT IN WHICH MY COUNTRY WOULD FIND ITSELF ON ACCOUNT OF ITS FOOD NEEDS.

THE PRIME MINISTER HAS ALREADY LET IT BE KNOWN PUBLICLY THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS DECLINED TO SUPPLY ANY ARMS TO PAKISTAN. IF, ON TOP OF THAT, OUR PEOPLE WERE TO LEARN THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS ALSO DECLINED TO GIVE ANY SUBSTANTIAL FOOD AID, THEY WOULD CONSIDER THE PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON TO HAVE BEEN A COMPLETE FAILURE. THEY WOULD ALSO INEVITABLY CONTRAST THE UNITED STATES' ATTITUDE TO ITS ALLY, PAKISTAN, WITH THAT OF THE SOVIET UNION WHICH HAS RECENTLY DECIDED TO LOAN TWO MILLION TONS OF WHEAT TO HER ALLY, INDIA.

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I PROFOUNDLY TRUST THAT BOTH ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS AND IN THE INTEREST OF STRENGTHENING UNITED STATES-PAKISTAN RELATIONSHIP, YOUR GOVERNMENT MAY YET FIND A WAY OF MEETING A SUBSTANTIAL PART OF OUR FOOD REQUIREMENTS AT A TIME WE ARE IN A REALLY DIFFICULT SITUATION.

WITHBEST WISHES UNQUOTE

3. SECRETARY'S LETTER AND COPY OF AZIZ AHMED'S LETTER
POUCHED TODAY. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WHEAT, PL 480 TITLE 2, COMMODITY ASSISTANCE, FOOD ASSISTANCE, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, SORGHUM, VEGETABLE OILS, SOYBEAN OIL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: collinp0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE204419
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JHHOLMES/MW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS LAINGEN
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731031/aaaaawpe.tel
Line Count: 165
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04-Jan-2002 by willialc>; APPROVED <22 FEB 2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LETTER TO AZIZ AHMED FROM THE SECRETARY FOR CHARGE
TAGS: EAID, PFOR, PK, US, ID, (AHMED, AZIZ)
To: ISLAMABAD
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005